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Attorney Docket No. 03746/LH**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Y. ONO et al.

Serial No. : 10/734,894

Filed : December 12, 2003

For : IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS, IMAGE
PROCESSING METHOD, AND PROGRAM

Art Unit : 2374

Examiner : PHAM, HAI CHI

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
WITH STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)**Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

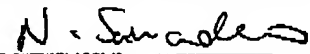
S I R :

Submitted herewith are the following:

- (1) Copy of a European Search Report dated September 21, 2005, issued in the counterpart European application;
- (2) Copies of cited publications (except U.S. patents); and
- (3) Form PTO/SB/08A.

The European Search Report is in English, thereby satisfying the requirements for a concise explanation of relevance for any non-English language publications cited therein (MPEP 609 III A(3)).

USP 5,321,524 listed on the attached PTO/SB/08A is a counterpart of EP 0 487 247 cited in the attached European Search Report. See the Annex to the European Search Report.

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE
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TO NO. 1-571-273-8300TOTAL PAGES: 32
I hereby certify that this paper is being
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Nalini P. Sahadeo

Dated: November 8, 2005

In the event that this Paper is late filed,
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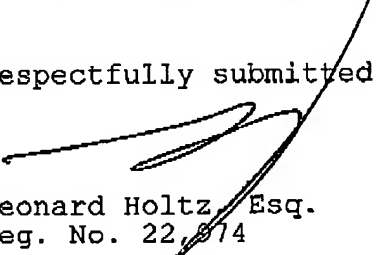
JP 62-249138 and JP 2000-284382 cited in the attached European Search Report were previously cited with applicant's IDS filed March 29, 2004 and are therefore not being cited again in the present IDS.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e) (1)

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement. Said Communication bears a mailing date of September 21, 2005. Therefore, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is timely under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(e) and does not require a fee.

It is requested that an initialed copy of the Form PTO/SB/08A be returned to indicate that the publications listed therein have been considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,


Leonard Holtz, Esq.
Reg. No. 22,874

Encls.

Dated: November 8, 2005

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|---|---|----|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------|----------|
| Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT | | | Application Number | | 10/734,894 | |
| | | | Filing Date | | December 12, 2003 | |
| | | | First Named Inventor | | Y. Ono | |
| | | | Group Art Unit | | 2861 | |
| | | | Examiner Name | | PHAM, HAI CHI | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | | 03746/LH |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Exam. Initials* | Cite No ¹ | Document Number | Kind Code ² | Name of Patentee or Applicant | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Relevant Portion |
|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| | | 4,751,377 | A | ISHIZAKA et al | 06-14-1988 | |
| | | 5,321,524 | A | YANAGITA | 06-14-1994 | |
| | | 5,859,933 | A | SASANUMA et al | 01-12-1999 | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Exam Initials* | Cite No ¹ | Office ³ | Document Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ | Name of Patentee or Applicant | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Relevant Portion | T ⁶ |
|----------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| | | EP | 0 487 247 | A2 | KONICA CORP | 05-27-1992 | | |

Examiner
Signature

Date
Considered

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: November 8, 2005